

K-462

late 19th - early 20th
century

Forest Dean Farm

West of Johnsontown Road, off of Route 289, lies Forest Dean Farm. The gable-roofed farmhouse has a 2-1/2 story, 3 bay wide, 2 bay deep main section built about 1900 with a side hall plan. An earlier (but of indeterminate age) 1-1/2 story, 2 room wide and 1 room deep section joins the main section at its east gable end. A late 19th or early 20th century frame dairy with unusual detailing and a frame meathouse are located near the house.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Clark's Neglect (1771)/Comegys Neglect (usually owned by owner of
and/or common Forest Dean Farm Comegys Bight house, K-91)

2. Location

Long lane begins west side of Johnsontown Road, .1 mile
street & number south of Quaker Neck Rd. (RT. 289) ___ not for publication

city, town Chestertown —☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Kent

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	___ yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name George F. Johnson

street & number 90 Cricket Avenue telephone no.:

city, town Ardmore state and zip code Pennsylvania 19003

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Court House liber EHP109

street & number folio 173

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. K-462

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This gable-roofed farmhouse has a 2½ story, 3 bay wide, 2 bay deep main section built about 1900 with a side hall plan. An earlier (but of indeterminate age) 1½ story, 2-room wide and 1 room deep section joins the main section on its east gable end. A small gable-roofed 1 story utility wing was added to the east end of the 1½ story section in 1976.

8. Significance

Survey No. K-462

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Considerably remodeled and repaired, this modest farmhouse apparently has had more tenant than owner occupancy during its history. It is somewhat unusual in that its late Victorian main section was added at the end of an earlier 1½ story house. The most noteworthy interior feature is the very large (more than 7½ ft. wide) kitchen fireplace with wooden lintel and exposed brick, with one section over the lintel parged. Near the house there is a late 19th or early 20th century frame dairy with unusual detailing. A frame meathouse displays a transitional type of construction (intermediate between planked log and cell-type framing).

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. K-462

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Margaret Q. Fallaw, Surveyor		
	County Commissioners of Kent County		
organization	Historical Society of Kent County	date	5/81
	The Court House		778-4600
street & number	Church Alley	telephone	778-3499
city or town	Chestertown	state	Maryland 21620

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

PS-2746

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.1 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Building Form and Material

1. Size - Main Section: 2½ stories, 3 bays wide, 2 bays deep
 Wing A: 1½ stories, 2 bays wide, 2 bays deep
 Wing B: 1 story, 2 bays deep, 1½ bays deep
 2. Plan type - Side hall, with one large room per floor (main section)
 3. Roof type - Main Section & Wings: gable
 4. Chimneys - Location: 1) West gable end of main section 2) Wing A - in center along roof ridge (rebuilt chimney is perpendicular to fireplaces 3) At intersection of Wing A & main section - for furnace
 5. Material/Walls - Main Section: Frame - Asbestos shingles over weatherboard
 Wing A: Frame - Lapped hardboard (Masonite) over lapped weatherboard of yellow pine
 Wing B: Frame - Hardboard (lapped)
 6. Material/Roofs - Main section: Asphalt shingles over wood shingles.
 Wing A: Asphalt shingles over wood shingles
 Wing B: Asphalt shingles
 7. Material/Foundation - Main Section: brick (cellar)
 Wing A: brick (crawl space)
 Wing B: Concrete block
 8. Age - Main Section: Late 19th - early 20th century. The room division is discernible by looking at the roof. The house may have started with one large room, perhaps in the early 19th century with the second added before the current main section. In both 1st floor room walls of Wing A the studs are random and mortised and tenoned. In the main section they are 16" on center but still mortised and tenoned, which may reflect persistence in a rural area of an old building practice. While improving the support for the Wing A kitchen floor, the current tenant discovered there were 3 layers of flooring, with the 3rd tongue and groove. There were found to be wooden blocks between the studs at floor level in the kitchen walls.
- Wings: Wing A - the 2 rooms seem to have been built at different times, with the eastern-most appearing to be earlier; both pre-date the main section. Wing C - built about 1976.
9. Style - Vernacular side-hall late Victorian with earlier sections in telescope fashion.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.2 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Building Elements and Details

1. Doors - Main entry: In the east bay of main section; the low, recent replacement door has 6 raised panels.
 Secondary entries: Opposite from main entry - exits to modern deck - recently replaced was a 6ft. high random-width board & batten door; another entry is thru east gable end of Wing B (built 1976), thru utility area. The kitchen door at the gable end of Wing A now enters Wing B but formerly opened to the outside; a wide board and batten door was recently removed.
2. Windows - Main section: type - double-hung; 2 casement attic windows at each gable end.
 lights - 6/6
 details - plain trim. There is a window at the stair landing.
 shutters - removed
 Wings: type - double-hung
 lights - 6/6
 details - plain frames and wood sills; Wing A-sash are recent replacements.
 shutters - removed Wing A
3. Dormers - 2 in rear slope of main section; 2 in each slope of Wing A. Cheeks are wood shingled; roofs are gable with 6-8" returns. Windows are double-hung with 6/3 lights.
4. Roof Details - Main Section: Box cornice with simple crown and plain small board bed molding. There is no overhang at gable ends; verge boards overlay siding.
 Wings: Plain new box cornice for Wings A & B
5. Porches - Located on gable end of Wing B - a new 3' x 5' porch. Main section - no porch at present; a porch said to have been 2 bays wide with a shed (low hip?) roof was removed.
6. Color - Current: Gray
 Historic: White?

Interior Description

1. Plan type - side hall plan main section one room deep with access to adjacent wing from stair hall.
2. Major stair - Dog-leg type formerly open to 3rd floor (now only to 2nd). Open string with 2 plain balusters per step. Simple turned newel with mahogany hand rail oval and continuous with newel; rail is continuous at intermediate but changes direction vertically to continue run.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.3 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Other Stairs - Removed - Wing A ladder stair opposite kitchen fireplace.

3. Major mantles - Main section; formerly plastered but now exposed and somewhat rebuilt; rectangular opening with flat splayed arch of stretchers. Dining room (Wing A) rather new but rebuilt. A large kitchen fireplace (Wing A) is seasonally used for a stove only at present. There is a large wood lintel (87" long, 5½" high). The opening is large and rectangular. Over the lintel is a sloped (on one side; other side is vertical; face is sloped to rear) plastered/parged section, above which is exposed brick to the ceiling (stepped on one side). Kitchen beams above are now covered but are said to be smoky black but not charred. Kitchen fireplace may indicate early room.

4. Major trim - Windows/doors: Plain (new); some older frames had bulls-eyes at head corners

Cornices: new

5. Major doors - 1970's replacements

6. Floors - Most are carpeted; Wing A, 2nd floor (eastern room) wide random boards possibly of poplar

7. Walls/ceiling finished - Mostly replacement sheet rock; 1st floor ceiling of main section was lowered about one foot with installation of ceiling tile.

Outbuildings/Site Description

1. Major outbuildings - Other outbuildings, for dairy farm, are 20th century.

Meat house - 12' 2" x 10' 1". Steep gable roof (12/12 ?) with asphalt shingles. Material is horizontal, spaced planks with vertical weatherboarding. Construction is a transitional type - between planked-log type (early) with the logs notched together at the corners and a later type with corner posts (and sometimes intermediate posts) and connectors with vertical boards applied on the exterior. In this meathouse there are wide and thick horizontal boards with spaces between them but notched (not dovetailed) together at the corners; there are no corner posts. Vertical boards (about 7" wide) are nailed to the exterior of these planks to the ceiling beam /eaves level, which is only about 5 ft. above the wide plank floor. Only 1 of the 4 hewn 4" x 7" beams remains. Above beam level on gable ends there is horizontal lapped weatherboarding. Collar beams are let in and nailed. The low board and batten door has wrought penny-end large strap hinges. There is no foundation; large beams below the floor level rest on the ground.

CONTINUATION SHEET

7.4 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Dairy - 8 ft. square with pyramidal roof. Material is brick foundation, wide plank siding now covered by asbestos shingles; asbestos shingle roof. The interior is plaster on lath, (over frame) including the flat ceiling. Roof framing is not visible. The entry is flanked by 2 small windows; the other sides have 2 windows each. The window heads are pedimented, there is dentil molding on the bed fascia, and the pyramidal roof is topped by a plain spire finial. Eaves are now open.

2. Site Description - The house is located on a generally flat, low peninsula between Fore Creek and Back Creek; the house site is slightly elevated. The very long lane from Johnsontown Road terminates to the east of the house with a meathouse and dairy immediately on the other side. 20th century farm outbuildings lie farther to the east. There is lawn on three sides of the house with a few trees; several fruit trees are in the rear yard.

3. Views to/from site - Past the yard on all sides there are cultivated fields with trees in the distance near Quaker Neck Road and on the far sides of both Fore and Back Creeks. Other houses are not seen.

Use of Building

1. Current - Residence, usually has been tenant house in 20th century
2. Historic - Residence; 20th century - farmhouse for dairy farm; kitchen fireplace used for blacksmith work??

History of Building/Past Ownership

In the late 19th and early 20th century a large peach orchard was said to have been to the rear (south) of the house.

The long farm lane exiting onto Johnsontown Road is relatively new. Formerly (and as shown in the 1877 atlas) the lane exited onto Quaker Neck Road directly opposite the lane entrance for Providence Plantation. In the 1877 Atlas a house is shown on the site and belonged to Hiram Brown. It is not likely that the main section was standing at that time.





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Forest Dean Farm

Johnsontown Road, Quaker Neck, near
Chestertown

M. Q. Fallaw - 3/29/86

View to west



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K-462

Forest Dean Farm

Johnsontown Road, Quaker Neck, near
Chestertown

M. Q. Fallaw - 3/29/86

View to east